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4 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
5 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
6 AT SEATTLE

7 VERASONICS, INC.,

8 Plaintiff,

9 v.

10 SUPERSONIC IMAGINE, S.A.,

11 Defendant.

C17-1764 TSZ

MINUTE ORDER

12 The following Minute Order is made by direction of the Court, the Honorable
13 Thomas S. Zilly, United States District Judge:

14 (1) Defendant's motion, docket no. 61, for leave to file an amended answer
15 incorporating a counterclaim for infringement of United States Patent No. 7,252,004, is
16 GRANTED. The Court is satisfied that defendant has sought to amend its pleadings well
17 in advance of the deadline (February 22, 2019) set forth in the Minute Order entered
18 May 22, 2018, docket no. 42. The Court is further persuaded that whatever prejudice
19 plaintiff might suffer in connection with defendant's amendment of its responsive
20 pleading in this matter is far outweighed by the inconvenience and hardship plaintiff
21 would experience if the parties continued to litigate the crux of defendant's proposed
22 counterclaim in France or in another case in this district. The Court makes no ruling
23 concerning whether the amendment of defendant's responsive pleading might warrant
any alteration to the case schedule or whether plaintiff's claims and defendant's proposed
counterclaim will be consolidated or bifurcated for trial or other purposes. Defendant
shall electronically file its amended responsive pleading within seven (7) days of the date
of this Minute Order. Any responsive pleading or motion shall be filed by plaintiff
within twenty-one (21) days after defendant's amended answer and counterclaim is filed.

(2) Counsel are REMINDED of their obligation to provide courtesy copies,
three-hole punched and tabbed, of filings that, in the aggregate, exceed 50 pages in
length. See Local Civil Rule 10(e)(9).

(3) The Clerk is directed to send a copy of this Minute Order to all counsel of record.

Dated this 17th day of October, 2018.

William M. McCool
Clerk

s/Karen Dews
Deputy Clerk